

## Message Text

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21

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 EB-07 /022 W

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R 071044Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9152

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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO GRAHAM WILLIAMS AT OPIC  
FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN

SUB: AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL

REF: A) AABIDJAN 6218 B) STATE 164675

1. I TALKED TO MINISTER OF PLAN MOHAMED DIAWARA ON JULY 6 CONCERNING AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL PROPOSALS. IN VIEW OF TIME THAT HAS PASSED SINCE GRASBERG VISITS, TAKING ACCOUNT OF CONTRETEMPS CAUSED BY MUELLER'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 3 (REQUESTING IN-COUNTRY COSTS BE COVERED BY GOIC, TO WHICH BEDIE REACTED NEGATIVELY) DIAWARA BELIEVES THAT AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL SHOULD MAKE A FRESH START WITH DISCUSSION OF WHETHER OR NOT TO ORGANIZE MISSION TO IVORY COAST.

2. WHEN DIAWARA WAS REMINDED OF FIVE AREAS OF INTEREST TO AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL (MUELLER LETTER OF FEBRUARY 3), HE SAID THAT HE WAS STILL VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN THESE AREAS.

3. WHEN I ASKED HIM HIS VIEWS ON A MIXED AMERICAN-EUROPEAN TEMA, HE APPEARED UNCERTAIN AND SAID HE WOULD WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROPOSAL BEFORE ENCOURAGING THAT.

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4. HE SUGGESTED THAT MUELLER SHOULD INDEED COME TO IVORY

COAST FOR FURTHER FISCUSION OF OBJECTIVES FOR AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL MISSION I VISIT. HE SAID BEST TIME TO BE SURE TO FIND HIMSELF, BEDIE AND SAWADOGO ALL HERE WOULD BE BETWEEN AUGUST 20-30, WHEN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET WILL BE UNDER REVIEW AND ALL MINISTERS WILL STAY CLOSE TO HOME TO LOOK OUT FOR THEIR INTERESTS.

5. DIAWARA WILL BE OUT OF COUNTRY FROM JULY 11 TO MID-AUGUST. HIS DIRECTOR OF CABINET, OUSMANE DIARRA, IS INFORMED OF AGRIBUSINESS COUNCIL'S INTEREST, HOWEVER (I AM GIVING HIM COPIES OF PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE) AND WILL BE IN POSITION TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS FOR DIAWARA AND OTHER MINISTERS WITH MUELLER IN LATE AUGUST. THIS SHOULD BE DONE THROUGH THIS EMBASSY, HOWEVER, TO ASSURE COORDINATION. SINCE I DEPART BEFORE MID-AUGUST, PLEASE CONTACT MUELLER AT END OF JULY TO DETERMIN HIS WILLINGNESS TO COME HERE AT SUGGESTED DATES.  
SMITH

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## Message Attributes

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